

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

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R 251435 Z JUN 73

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3547

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0475

E. O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 12/31/75

TAGS : PINT, PINS, SF

SUBJ: DEADLOCK CONTINUES OVER COLORED UNIVERSITY CLOSURE

REF: CAPE TOWN 462 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: FUTURE OF COLORED UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN CAPE REMAINS UNCERTAIN AS SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WHO WANT UNCONDITIONAL REINSTATEMENT MOUNTS. WHILE DEADLOCK PERSISTS, SOFTER LINE BY UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES OFFERS SOME HOPE FOR COMPROMISE.

2. DESPITE CONCESSION OF READMISSION PROCEDURES BY RECTOR OF COLORED UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE (UWC), THE DEADLOCK BETWEEN STUDENTS ON ONE SIDE AND UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT ON THE OTHER CONTINUES. RECTOR KRIEL ANNOUNCED JUNE 22 THAT ALL STUDENTS WOULD BE READMITTED IF THEY SIGNED FORM SENT THEM AND THEREBY UNDERTAKE TO ENDORSE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF UNIVERSITY AND RECOGNIZE AUTHORITY OF UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES. DEADLINE IS JULY 11. RECTOR SAID OVER 100 READMISSION FORMS ALREADY RECEIVED.

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3. NONETHELESS STUDENTS ACTION COMMITTEE NOW WANT UNCONDITIONAL AND UNQUALIFIED REINSTATEMENT OF WHOLE STUDENT BODY COUPLED WITH GUARANTEE GRIEVANCES WILL BE INVESTIGATED BY IMPARTIAL COMMISSION IN WHOSE MAKEUP STUDENTS WOULD HAVE A SAY. CAMPAIGN TO COLLECT UNSIGNED REAPPLICATIONS TO MAKE A BONFIRE IS CONTINUING.

4. ADAM SMALL, CONTROVERSIAL HEAD OF UWC PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT AND ONLY COLORED SENIOR LECTURER THERE, RESIGNED JUNE 19 BECAUSE OF THE UNIVERSITY CRISIS AND IN LARGER SENSE BECAUSE A (RACIAL) DEADLOCK HAD BEEN REACHED IN SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY. STUDENT LEADERS WELCOMED HIS ALIGNMENT WITH THEIR CAUSE BUT URGED HIM TO WITHDRAW RESIGNATION. HOWEVER, UNIVERSITY ACCEPTED RESIGNATION EFFECTIVE NEXT JANUARY FIRST.

5. AT UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN (UCT) STUDENTS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL HELD MEETINGS TO URGE FACILITIES THERE BE MADE AVAILABLE TO UWC STUDENTS. WHILE IDEA BACKED BY CONSIDERABLE PART OF UCT STAFF, MATTER IS STILL UNDER STUDY BY UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION. UWC STUDENTS HAVE ALSO SPOKEN VAGUELY OF PLANS FOR A FREE UNIVERSITY TO ABSORB THOSE WHO REFUSE TO APPLY FOR READMISSION.

6. MEANWHILE MASS MEETINGS CONTINUE IN VARIOUS COLORED CENTERS THROUGHOUT COUNTRY IN SUPPORT OF UWC STUDENTS. NEARLY 8,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED JUNE 24 PRAYER MEETING IN CAPE TOWN COLORED SUBURB OF ATHLONE TO PRAY FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTE. ADAM SMALL URGED STUDENTS TO CARRY ON THEIR CAMPAIGN FOR UNCONDITIONAL REINSTATEMENT AND SAID IT WAS TIME FOR ALL COLOREDS TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED. SEVERAL DAYS EARLIER TOM SWARTZ, LEADER OF CONSERVATIVE COLORED FEDERAL PARTY, WHILE OPPOSING BLACK POWER CONCEPT, SAID HE CONSIDERED UWC STUDENT GRIEVANCES WERE GENUINE AND SHOULD BE REMOVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

7. COMMENT UWC CLOSING IS CONTINUING TO ACT AS CATALYST AMONG COLOREDS AND AS STIMULANT TO BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS PHENOMENON. DESPITE FURTHER CONCESSION BY UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES DEADLOCK PERSISTS. PRESSURES BY SOME PARENTS WHO ANXIOUS OVER FUTURE EDUCATION , REALIZATION BY AUTHORITIES THAT ULTRA TOUGH LINE WILL NOT WORK, AND GENERAL DESIRE FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION MAY YET RESULT IN SETTLEMENT BUT OUTCOME IS STILL CLOUDED.

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